

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MINORITIES PROBLEM IN AUSTRIA: FSFA STATEMENT

REF: VIENNA 6877

1. SUMMARY: DECIBEL LEVEL IN MINORITIES DISPUTE HAS BEEN
RAISED ANOTHER NOTCH BY FSFA ISSUANCE OF STATEMENT
CHARGED TWO RECENT COMMENTS BY KREISKY AS "AN IMPERMISSBLE AND
INSULTING ATTACK AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA." END SUMMARY.

2. BORBA AND POLITIKA AUGUST 24 CARRY FSFA STATEMENT (IN
RESPONSE TO TANJUG QUERY) REACTING TO KREISKY'S COMMENTS AT
AUGUST 17 PRESS CONFERENCE AND STATEMENT TO AUGUST 22
ARBEITER ZEITUNG ON MINORITIES PROBLEM. IN FORMER, TANJUG
ALLEGES KREISKY IMPLIED CARINTHIAN SLOVENES DESIRE THEIR
AREA TO BE RETURNED TO SLOVENIA; IN LATTER, CHANCELLOR
REPORTEDLY STATED THAT YUGOSLAV PRESS COULD "STIR UP CLIMATE
IN CARINTHIA" STILL FURTHER.

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3. FSFA TERMS KREISKY'S STATEMENT AS "AN IMPERMISSIBLE AND

INSULTING ATTACK AGAINST YUGOSLAVIA." SAYS "STATEMENTS CONTAIN INSINUATIONS ABOUT ALLEGED TERRITORIAL PRETENSIONS OF YUGOSLAVIA TOWARD AUSTRIA AND AN ATTEMPT TO LAUNCH THE OLD STORY OF INTERNATIONAL REACTIONARY CIRCLES ABOUT THE NON-EXISTENCE OF FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN YUGOSLAVIA." STATEMENT ADDS THAT KREISKY'S COMMENTS ARE "IN FULL CONTRADICTION TO USUAL STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES." (OF COURSE, GOY'S OWN BEHAVIOR INTER ALIA IN LAUNCHING MUD SLINGING CAMPAIGN REplete WITH CHARGES OF NAZISM AND VIOLATIONS OF CSCE IS NOT MENTIONED.)

4. INSTEAD OF TRYING TO DISCREDIT YUGOSLAVIA AND BLAME THE SLOVENES, SAYS FSFA, KREISKY AND HIS GOVERNMENT "SHOULD PONDER SERIOUSLY ON TH SETTLEMENTS OF ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS CONNECTED WITH THE REALIZATION OF THE RIGHTS AND THE POSITION OF THE SLOVENIAN AND CROATIAN MINORITIES IN AUSTRIA."

5. STATEMENT CALLS ON YUGOSLAV PRESS TO RESPOND TO KREISKY, "TO HIS ACCUSATION THAT IT IS NOT A FREE PRESS." STATES THAT YUGOSLAV PRESS, "WHICH IS FREELY COMMENTING ON EVERYTHING THAT IS TAKING PLACE IN THE WORLD AND IN OTHER COUNTRIES, IS TRYING TO EXPRESS THE VIEWS AND STANDPOINTS OF THE YUGOSLAV PUBLIC" AND IS "NOT THE ONE WHICH STIRS UP THE CLIMATE IN CARINTHIA."

6. FINALLY, FSFA ACCUSES GOA'S ATTITUDE AND "AUSTRIAN CHAUVINISTS" OF BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR SITUATION AND STATES THAT LETTER AND SPIRIT OF STATE TREATY PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF THE SLOVENE AND CROATIAN MINORITIES HAVE NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED SINCE SIGNING OF TREATY.
SILBERMAN

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